

HOUSE BILL NO. 51

INTRODUCED BY J. POMNICHOWSKI

BY REQUEST OF THE DEPARTMENT OF FISH, WILDLIFE, AND PARKS

A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT FORMALLY ELIMINATING STATE ADMINISTRATION OF THE MONTANA CONSERVATION CORPS BY REPEALING OBSOLETE STATUTES THAT PLACE THE MONTANA CONSERVATION CORPS WITHIN THE PARKS DIVISION OF THE DEPARTMENT OF FISH, WILDLIFE, AND PARKS, SUBJECT TO THE OVERSIGHT OF THE OFFICE OF COMMUNITY SERVICE; AMENDING SECTION 90-14-103, MCA; REPEALING SECTIONS 23-1-301, 23-1-302, 23-1-303, 23-1-311, 23-1-312, 23-1-313, AND 23-1-314, MCA; AND PROVIDING AN IMMEDIATE EFFECTIVE DATE."

WHEREAS, in 1989, the Montana Conservation Corps was statutorily placed under the Parks Division of the Department of Fish, Wildlife, and Parks, subject to the oversight of the Office of Community Service; and

WHEREAS, in about 1993, the Montana Conservation Corps was reorganized as a nonprofit organization and removed from direct state governmental oversight, yet the statutes related to the Montana Conservation Corps were not addressed to reflect the revised status of the Montana Conservation Corps; and

WHEREAS, it is appropriate to repeal the obsolete statutes to accurately reflect the current purpose and structure of the Montana Conservation Corps.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MONTANA:

Section 1. Section 90-14-103, MCA, is amended to read:

"90-14-103. Office of community service. (1) There is an office of community service, which is headed by a director and established in the office of the governor.

(2) The purpose of this office is to:

- (a) renew the ethic of civic responsibility in the state;
- (b) encourage the citizens of the state, regardless of age or income, to engage in full-time or part-time service to the state;
- (c) call young people to serve in projects that will benefit the state and improve their life chances through the acquisition of literacy, job skills, and interpersonal skills;

(d) build on the existing organizational framework of state and local governmental entities to expand full-time and part-time service opportunities in a wide variety of programs for all citizens, particularly youth and older Montanans;

(e) involve participants in activities that would not otherwise be performed by employed workers; and

(f) establish programs to accomplish labor-intensive improvements to public or low-income properties or to provide services for the benefit of the state, its communities, and its people through service contracts that specify the work to be performed.

(3) The director must be appointed by the governor, after consultation with the commission. The director serves at the pleasure of the governor.

(4) The director shall, with the advice of the commission, assist the governor in the planning, coordination, operation, and evaluation of programs within state government or under grants, donations, bequests, or other resources received by and administered through state government for Montana community services.

(5) The director is responsible for the submission of applications for federal grants and for funding from any other sources for the creation or operation of volunteer projects. The director shall ensure accountability for all resources received.

(6) The director, together with the commission, shall integrate and develop state plans for all services provided under this part, including but not limited to the office of public instruction's service learning program, the Montana university system innovative projects, ~~the Montana conservation corps established in 23-1-301~~, the department of military affairs' service involvement, and other community and volunteer service programs."

NEW SECTION. **Section 2. Repealer.** Sections 23-1-301, 23-1-302, 23-1-303, 23-1-311, 23-1-312, 23-1-313, and 23-1-314, MCA, are repealed.

NEW SECTION. **Section 3. Effective date.** [This act] is effective on passage and approval.

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